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Appropriate for Christmas Presents.

Home in and take a look at our Line before making a selection.

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NOTICE! Ladies of Clarksburg!

We beg to inform the Ladies of Clarksburg that the Clarksburg Installment Company has opened up again and is ready to sell Ladies' Waists, Skirts, Suits, etc., on easy payments. We do not charge installment prices, as other installment houses do. Wishing to have all our old customers back again, and also new ones, we can assure them good treatment, we are, Yours Truly,

Clarksburg Installment Co.,

Pike Street. Opposite Walker House

Before the Rush Begins.

New fall suitings and Overcoat materials are all in. Many very handsome and exclusive patterns among them at quite modest prices.

And now before the rush begins and while the new fabrics are all here is the best time to leave your measure.

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You will find a large collection of useful gifts at The Clarksburg Tailor- it Co. Dec. 13-25

Mid-Winter Excursions to Washington—Very Low Rates—Baltimore and Ohio R. R.

In accordance with its usual custom the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. will, on January 22 and February 10, 1903 run two Popular Mid-Winter Excursions to Washington at very low rates for the round trip, allowing ten days return limit on tickets, including date of sale.

Excellent train service, standard coaches, Pullman parlor and sleeping cars.

These delightful excursions afford splendid opportunities to visit the National Capital during the session of Congress. For tickets, time of trains and full information call on or address agents B. & O. R. R. for full information.

A most complete and fully illustrated Guide to Washington may be purchased from agents B. & O. R. R. at ten (10) cents per copy.

Thompson Music Company Moves

The Thompson Music Company has moved to the north end of Glen Elk bridge, where they are opening up a fine display of musical instruments for the holidays. They will also have an unusually large line of fine small instruments, and everything carried in an up-to-date music store. Call and see them before buying your Christmas presents.

ACCEPTS ROOSEVELT.

Castro Willing that President of United States Shall Arbitrate the Dispute.

ACTIVITY AT LONDON EMBASSIES

Not One of the Allies at the Present Time Contemplate Submitting Venezuelan Difficulty to The Hague Court—Blockade in Effect.

Caracas, Dec. 22.—In the name of Venezuela President Castro has signified acceptance of the appointment of President Roosevelt to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulty.

Port of Spain, Trinidad, Dec. 22.—The blockade of Venezuelan ports was begun with an effective force at midnight Saturday night. The British have the cruisers Indefatigable, Alert and Tribune, the special service steamer Columbine and the torpedo boat destroyer Rocket along the coast. The cruiser Ariadne, the flagship of Vice Admiral Douglas, is here and will remain here. All the British operations will be directed from Trinidad.

The cruiser Vineta, the German flagship, left here yesterday morning for La Guaira to reinforce the German cruisers Gazelle, Panther and Falk and the training ship Stosch. The Charlotte, another training ship, has left here for St. Lucia, her presence on the blockade apparently being unnecessary.

Kearsarge and Alabama Arrived.

The United States battleships Kearsarge and Alabama arrived here yesterday afternoon. Their appearance provoked considerable comment on shore, but when Admiral Higginson called upon the acting governor of Trinidad and the commandant of the British ships he took occasion to explain that his visit to this port of the American men-of-war was part of the usual winter trip of the squadron. As the American vessels entered the harbor the Charlotte saluted Admiral Higginson's flag, a courtesy which was also extended by the British ships. The salutes were returned.

London, Dec. 22.—It is believed that President Roosevelt's answer to the proposal made by the allied powers that he arbitrate the Venezuelan issues has been received in London. The strictest secrecy with regard to every phase of the negotiations is preserved, however, and it is impossible to make a definite statement, but such indications as are obtainable point to President Roosevelt's acceptance of the office of arbitrator.

Acceptance Would Cause Surprise. It must be said that the acceptance of the office of arbitrator by President Roosevelt would greatly surprise the foreign office, which always has been doubtful of the issue of the arbitration negotiations on account of the belief that President Roosevelt was not willing to take the responsibility thereby involved.

In spite of the fact that Sunday is usually sacred to leisure in London's diplomatic circle, yesterday was marked by activity at all the embassies, and especially at the American, where work was in progress all Saturday night. The promptness with which Washington deals with those vital matters concerning which prolix pour parlars have been interchanged in Europe astonishes diplomats here and forms an interesting phase of an engrossing situation.

Opposed to Hague Settlement. Rome, Dec. 22.—It has been learned here that not one of the allies at the present time contemplates submitting the Venezuelan difficulty to the Hague court. The Venezuelan difficulty was fully discussed by King Victor Emmanuel and Foreign Minister Prinetti at their semi-weekly conference yesterday morning, and much satisfaction with the more peaceful turn of events was expressed.

Signor Prinetti officially notified Ambassador Meyer of Italy's participation in the blockade of Venezuela. Berlin, Dec. 22.—It has been learned here that the governments of Germany and Great Britain have adopted detailed answers to the proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan issues. These communications will be handed to Ambassador White here and to Charge d'Affaires White in London today. The correspondent of the Associated Press has learned further that the German answer agrees in all substantial effects with the British answer and makes no separate reservations in behalf of the German case.

Nothing to Make Public.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Officials of the state department announced to the newspaper reporters last night that there was nothing to make public during the latest phases of the Venezuela imbroglio. Such dispatches from the American embassies in Europe regarding Venezuelan matters as come to Washington are of a confidential character, concerning whose nature it was impossible to ascertain anything. It is believed there has been no change of importance since Saturday, when the state department announced that in response to President Roosevelt's suggestion to the allies that The Hague tribunal arbitrate the issues, the European governments suggested that the president himself act in the capacity of arbitrator. While reluctant to take up the role of mediator, the president would do so rather than to see the unfortunate state of affairs now existing prolonged indefinitely.

THE FINLAND CROP FAILURE.

It is Said 144 Parishes Are Nearly Destitute and 106 Have Supplies to Last Until Christmas Only.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 22.—The average grain crop gathered in Finland is valued at \$30,000,000. The estimated value of the 1902 crop is \$20,000,000. While this loss is generally distributed throughout Finland, it is almost total in the northern third of the country, where are the provinces of Uleaborg, Kuopio, Vasa, St. Michel and portions of Viborg.

Peas and beans generally have failed, and the potato crop has not been gathered; the hay has rotted or been swept away by floods. The rains spoiled the fishing. So complete was the failure of vegetation that dead birds by the hundreds have been found in the forests. The present crop failure is the worst that has been experienced for the last 50 years. It is hoped, however, that better methods of communication will facilitate the work of relief and avoid wholesale deaths by hunger and typhus.

There are, all told, about 540 parishes in Finland. One hundred and forty-four of these parishes are now nearly destitute. The agricultural board has received reports from 140 of the 194 parishes, showing that 106 have food supplies which will suffice them until Christmas only. In some parts of the country bread is baked from barley husks and straw mixed with a little flour. Such bread contains very little nutrition and is extremely unwholesome. The danger of famine was realized early by the public.

Count Bibrikoff, governor general of Finland, has issued an appeal for help in Russia, and a voluntary relief committee has been organized by Finlanders, with branches throughout the country. The Anglo-American church here is affiliated with this committee. The Russian government has drawn up a comprehensive plan for aiding the people who are today in a state of semi-starvation as a result of crop failures, and generally relieving the distress which is widespread throughout 10 governments of European Russia and some districts of Siberia. The sum of \$3,331,500 has already been expended in relief work, but further great sums will be necessary to support the populace of the afflicted districts and enable them to resume farming in the spring.

Remains of Mrs. Grant Buried.

New York, Dec. 21.—In the mausoleum in the Riverside drive brief and simple services were conducted yesterday over the remains of Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant. The services, conducted by Bishop E. G. Andrews, of the Methodist Episcopal church, and Rev. Alexander Mackay Smith, Protestant Episcopal bishop coadjutor of Pennsylvania, opened with the hymn, "Lead Kindly Light," after which the burial services of the Methodist Episcopal and the Protestant Episcopal churches were read. The services were closed with the reading of a poem, "The Land Beyond the Sea," which had been a favorite of Mrs. Grant, and the singing of the hymn, "Abide with Me."

Will Remove Grade Crossings.

Cleveland, Dec. 22.—Work will be commenced in the spring to rid the city of Cleveland of 134 grade crossings in several directions which these dangerous localities now exist. The estimated cost of the work will be \$10,000,000, and 10 years will be required to do the work. There are seven railroads concerned in the expensive improvement. These roads are the Nickel Plate, 54 grade crossings; Wheeling and Lake Erie, 21; Pennsylvania, 21; Lake Shore, 13; Big Four, 13; Erie, 10; Cleveland, Terminal and Valley, 2. Legislative authority has been granted to begin the work, the city and the railroads each bearing an equal share of the great cost.

One Killed, Two Injured.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 2.—A Detroit United Railway construction car was struck at the Dearborn street crossing in the western suburbs of this city, by the Pere Marquette passenger train which left for Saginaw at 2 a. m. yesterday, and Otto C. Deginder, 23 years old, a trolley man in the employ of the street railway company, had his neck broken and died a few minutes after the collision. Motorist David Gordon, of the construction car, and Engineer N. E. Dorstead, of the passenger train, were badly bruised. The construction car was tossed 100 feet from the track and demolished.

Methodists Raise Large Fund.

Cincinnati, Dec. 22.—One of the greatest events in local Methodism was held at Music hall here yesterday afternoon, under the auspices of the Twentieth Century fund offering commission, Bishop David H. Moore, of China, presiding. This district lacked \$27,000 of its subscription, and all but \$2,000 was secured yesterday.

From the Cable Ship. San Francisco, Dec. 22.—The following message was received yesterday noon from the cable ship Sitka, now laying the Pacific cable between this city and Honolulu: "Latitude, 28.44 north; longitude, 143.25 west. Total cable paid out, 1,267 knots. Weather fine."

WEATHER FORECAST.

Ohio—Cloudy today, with rain or snow in north portion; colder in east portion; brisk west winds. Tomorrow, fair. Western Pennsylvania—Rain or snow and colder today. Tomorrow, fair; brisk westerly winds. West Virginia—Fair in west, rain or snow in east portion today; colder, tomorrow, fair.

SAMUEL JONES' COMPLIMENT.

"Theodore Roosevelt as a Man is Greater Than the Government He Represents."

Chicago, Dec. 22.—"Theodore Roosevelt as a man is greater than the government he represents. While the government of the United States was unable to restore peace in the anthracite region, Roosevelt, not as president, but as a man, suggested a rational way to settle the trouble. The man triumphed, and the problem was solved."

Thus spoke Samuel M. (Golden Rule) Jones, mayor of Toledo, O., before the Chicago Peace society yesterday. He sought to show that force to arms was futile, that war was inexcusable, and that killing in battle was murder.

Mayor Jones declared, however, that he was an optimist, and in spite of recent wars, he said, the world was better off than it was 100 years ago, and was continually improving. That brought him to the late coal strike in Pennsylvania and caused the reference to the president.

Mayor Jones criticized Major General Young, who, at a banquet in Cleveland on Saturday night, spoke of the necessity of force to maintain the supremacy of the nation's commerce. "No one will accuse me of being unpatriotic," said Mr. Jones, "but I would not raise a boy to go into the army or the navy to support commerce of this kind."

Rev. Francis J. Barry, chancellor of the Catholic archdiocese of Chicago; Dr. Joseph Stolz, of the Jewish faith, and Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones were the other speakers.

Christmas Mail Burned.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Official report of the burning of a carload of Christmas mail en route for the west was made here at 3:45 p. m. yesterday by the crew of mail clerks arriving here from New York on the fast mail No. 3, on the New York Central, which left New York at 8:45 a. m. Only 20 or 30 out of the 700 or 800 pouches were saved, the burned mail being for Chicago and points further west. Some of the mail was destined for the Philippine and Fiji islands. The mail sacks were in a storage car, which carried no clerks. The crew was on the car behind and discovered the fire between Peekskill and Highland. The car was left burning at the latter station.

Food Test Well Under Way.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The food tests that Dr. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry, of the agricultural department, is making on a number of government employees to ascertain what, if any, effects are produced by a diet to which is added borax and other food preservatives is at last fairly under way. Yesterday afternoon at dinner borax and boracic acid figured to quite an extent in the food given the government boarders. Those who ate the dinner said they did not notice the presence of any preservative in the food, and no ill effects had resulted to any of them last evening.

National Industrial Bureau.

Cleveland, Dec. 22.—Labor Commissioners W. A. L. Johnson, of Topeka, Kan.; T. A. Smith, of Baltimore; J. M. Clark, of Harrisburg, Pa., and David Ross, of Springfield, Ill., met here yesterday and decided to hold the next annual meeting of the National Bureau of Industrial Statistics at Washington, April 28, 29, 30 and May 2 and 3, 1903. It is said that the question of taxation will be the principal subject for discussion at the convention.

Robbers Surrounded.

Loogootee, Ind., Dec. 22.—Word was received here last night that farmers had surrounded, west of this place, the outlaws who held up the night clerk at Patterson's restaurant, robbed two stores and attempted to rob the White River bank here Saturday morning. A posse of armed men left here last night to assist in the capture. The detectives who arrived here last night in the interest of the bank and insurance companies also went out to assist the farmers.

Damage Severe.

Evansville, Ind., Dec. 22.—The Ohio river, which has been overflowing the lowlands above and below the city for past week, came to a stand yesterday. The damage has been severe to farmers. Tie and lumber men along Green river report heavy losses. There was also considerable loss along the Wabash river. A large amount of corn was in shock along the river and was lost. All boats have been delayed the past three days by the high waters.

National Reform Association.

Sharon, Pa., Dec. 22.—The Mercer County National Reform association held a convention in Mercer Saturday and by a unanimous vote Mormonism was denounced and a resolution was passed urging that legislative measures be passed by congress abolishing polygamy among the Mormons.

Fire at Ingleside School.

New Milford, Conn., Dec. 22.—Ingleside school, a large and fashionable seminary for young ladies, conducted by Mrs. William D. Black, was partially destroyed by a fire of unknown origin yesterday, and caused damage estimated at \$40,000.

Will Meet at Cincinnati.

Cincinnati, Dec. 22.—The national officers of the American Federation of Catholic Societies have decided to hold their semi-annual executive board meeting here, probably Jan. 15.

Charles F. Griffin Dead.

Hammond, Ind., Dec. 22.—Charles F. Griffin, former secretary of state, who last week was stricken with paralysis, died at his home here yesterday.

Good Enough For a Beast.

A droll little story is told of Mr. W. S. Gilbert. He put up his horse one day at a small country inn, on the signboard of which was painted conspicuously the notice, "Entertainment For Man and Beast." When his lunch was brought, he looked dissatisfied and surprised the waiter by saying, "This is all very well so far, but where is the entertainment for the man?"—London Tit-Bits.

Something Harder.

Auntie (darning Jackie sobbing in a corner)—Why, Jackie, what has happened to make you feel so bad this morning? Jackie—M-ma m-ssed some jelly. Auntie—Ho, ho! I see. And her suspicions fell on you, eh? Jackie—No, auntie; it was her slipper.—Boston Courier.

Too Valuable to Lose.

"Rephild," she said to a wealthy young dandy who had been paying his attentions to her, "I would like to ask you one very serious question." "What is it, my dear?" he replied. "Would you object to marrying mamma if I refused you? You see, we really don't want to lose you."

Tommy's Trade.

Mother (who had been out for the day)—Tommy, did you take that medicine that I told you to when I was away?

Tommy—No, ma. Willie Jones came in, and he liked it so I exchanged it with him for a sour apple.—Punch.

The Fortunate Girl.

The girl with dark chestnut hair and eyes and clear, white complexion is fortunate, for she can wear almost any color; but take away her clear complexion and substitute an olive complexion and she will have to be careful in her selection of colors and contrasts. So many girls, with the aid of cosmetics, try to make their faces suit their surroundings. This is a mistaken idea, as the surroundings should always be planned and arranged to suit the face. A woman with a sallow complexion and dull brown hair and eyes has no reason whatever for looking ugly. All she needs to do is affect dull reds and browns, and, no matter what her color or she indulges in, always have a touch of dull red or brown somewhere, and she will find her problem solved, in the most satisfactory manner. She must give up all ideas of striking contrasts, for to her they are out of the question.

Simplificty.

The Countess of Malmesbury, discussing on beauty, says that many women would be handsome with at least the good looks of healthy animals if they did not disfigure themselves with oddly devised and ill assorted adornments.

A simple dress of one plain color, fashioned in an easy, flowing style, short if for outdoor wear, long if for the house, the bodice loose and drawn in lightly by a belt, would adorn a slim shape and conceal a stout one far better than the most complicated production which the most celebrated man-manner ever foisted on a vain and foolish customer.

Toys, Novelties, Hobby Horses, Handkerchiefs, Umbrellas, Fancy Goods.

We are now showing an exceptionally strong line of

Fur Scarfs and Muffs, La Kid Gloves, La Monte Carlo Coats, Special Reductions.

Toys, Holiday Goods

and we would be glad to show you through the entire line

Let the children come in and see Santa Claus Suspended in the air. Only a few more days till Xmas. No time like the present to buy your Holiday Goods.

T. J. LYNCH & CO.

LYNCH BUILDING. Dry Goods store. 330 Main Street.

PICK UP AN OPPORTUNITY

Some Real Estate propositions which we are able to make you afford opportunities for SOUND, PROFIT-PAYING INVESTMENTS which should be picked up at once. 'Nuff sed.

COTTRELL & HOPKINS.

Real Estate and Insurance. 214 COURT STREET. CLARKSBURG, W. VA.

FLETCHER Xmas Selling

now going on here at this store Brisker, Better than ever. Holiday Goods in Endless Variety. Dolls, Handkerchiefs, Silverware, Picture Frames, Medallions, Mirrors, Comb Sets, In fact, everything. Xmas Rugs, Xmas Carpet, Brussels Xmas Carpet Sweepers. Thousands of Useful Xmas Novelties.

Fletcher's Bee-Hive.

Fletcher Pays No Rent and Saves you Money